intercharge of hands between the Devaswam and other departments. Where an instance of the kind contemplated might happen is in the higher grades i. e, 80-100 of the clerical grades and officers with separate offices. In such cases such an instance would arise if there were two or more officers from different castes on a par in the grade of seniority and then a vacancy arises in the department which only the caste-Hindu can enter. Then the caste-Hindu would be preferred to the higher grade in the Devaswam Department and so becomes his senior. But really such instance do not happen. What occurs is that the person senior in the whole service goes into the next higher grade of the Devaswam Department. Thus only the seniority in the service is maintained even by the transfer of the officer to the Devaswam Department. Things have been thus hereto. I do not deny that a hypothetical instance of the kind the Member refers to in his speech, may not happen. I do not deny that. Till now from experience such an instance, I must almost say, has not happened. If an instance of the kind at any time happens Government will certainly remember that that officer got seniority over others simply because he got into a department to which others have no access. That point will be remembered and taken into account while deciding further senority.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—On that assurance I withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was withdrawn with leave of the House.

61. Enquiry on Petitions by Police Officer.

As the following resolution was not moved it was considered withdrawn.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—*That this Council do recommend to the Government that in future no petitions of any nature forwarded by the Magistrates to the Police Station for enquiry should be entrusted with a Police Officer below the rank of an Inspector.*

Farewell Speech by the Leader of the Progressive Party.

Dr. A.G. Menon.—I may be allowed to say a few words on behalf of the Progressive Party of Cochin.

President.—Yes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We have now come to the closing scene of the Second Cochin Legislative Council. May I on behalf of the Progressive Party beg your leave to say a few words?

We are profoundly thankful to His Highness our beloved Maharaja for giving us this Institution in which, in spite of its many drawbacks, we have nevertheless, been able to ventilate the grievances of the country effectively and to come into direct touch with the officers carrying on the administration

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of the State. This mutual contact has not been without its advantages to both parties.

The limitations under which our Council now works are many and have been prominently brought into relief in the course of the working of the Council during the past 6 years and we sincerely hope that they will soon be of the past.

In you, Sir, instead of a Diwan-President, we have had a President of the Council (*Hear, hear*) and you have guided the destinies and proceedings with the dignity and honour always associated with the Chair, and you have studiously kept in the background the fact that you are the Diwan, the moment you step into the dias of this Honourable House. (*Hear, hear*). We are thankful also for the compliment you have always paid us at the closing of the Sessions and we do sincerely hope and trust that the cry for reforms to make this institution more and more useful to our fellow men and the good administration of our State will have a sympathetic ear from you to lead us onward to our goal (*Hear, hear*). There are many items of reforms, and those that lie within the rule-making powers of the Government, we have no doubt and we hope, will soon materialise, by the co-operation between the Diwan and the Council. (*Hear, hear*). I would not enter into any detail of the other items of reforms at this stage, important as they are all for the progress and advance of the State as a whole.

We also wish to congratulate you, Sir, on quick despatch of the work of the Council with you in the Chair. And in conclusion while we thank you for universal courtsey and consideration you have extended to us always, we do trust that before you have left our State you would have helped us forward towards a progressive realisation of our goal by your sympathy and good will. (*Hear, hear*).

We now bid you, Sir, farewell on behalf of the Second Legislative Council.

Concluding Remarks by the President and Dissolution of the Council.

President.—Dr. A. G. Menon, and Hon'ble Members of the Cochin Legislative Council.

I must thank you very much for the very kind sentiments you have just expressed about me; but surely they are very large exaggerations, because if I have been successful in guiding the deliberations of this assembly in a satisfactory manner, it is, as I said at the opening of the first meeting of which I had the honour to preside, due to the co-operation that I have always received from the Hon'ble Members of the Council. It would

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